



Director of Avian Medicine

Position Summary

The Director of Avian Medicine provides veterinary leadership and medical oversight for Greyhaven Exotic Bird Sanctuary, ensuring rescued parrots receive the highest standards of specialized avian care. This role supports the health and welfare of birds through diagnosis, treatment, preventative medicine, medical protocols, staff and volunteer education, and collaboration with Greyhaven's leadership team. The Director of Avian Medicine serves as a trusted medical advisor, helping guide decisions involving intake assessments, rehabilitation, chronic conditions, emergency care, sanctuary management, and adoption readiness.

Primary Responsibilities

Clinical Care & Diagnostics

- Perform comprehensive avian wellness examinations and medical assessments.
- Diagnose and treat illnesses, injuries, and chronic medical conditions affecting companion parrots.
- Interpret diagnostic testing including blood work, fecal testing, imaging, and other specialized avian diagnostics.
- Develop appropriate treatment plans and provide medical recommendations for birds in Greyhaven's care.
- Identify health concerns requiring intervention and advise caregivers on appropriate responses.

Medical & Surgical Care

- Provide or oversee medical treatments, including medication protocols, wound care, fracture management, and surgical interventions as required.
- Provide expertise in avian anesthesia, pain management, and post-operative care.
- Support emergency medical decision-making for injured or critically ill birds.
- Coordinate specialized veterinary referrals when advanced care is required.

Preventative Health & Sanctuary Medicine

- Establish and support preventative health protocols for birds entering Greyhaven's care.
- Provide guidance on quarantine procedures, disease prevention, sanitation, and biosecurity.
- Advise on nutrition, environmental needs, enrichment, and husbandry practices to promote optimal health.
- Support strategies to prevent common avian health concerns, including nutritional deficiencies, chronic disease, and feather destructive behaviors.

Medical Records & Documentation

- Maintain accurate medical records and treatment histories.
- Ensure diagnostic results, medications, procedures, and health recommendations are properly documented.



- Provide medical summaries and recommendations to Greyhaven leadership, caregivers, and adoption teams as appropriate.

Education & Training

- Educate staff, volunteers, foster caregivers, and adopters on avian health, disease prevention, medication administration, and recognizing signs of illness.
- Support the development of training materials related to avian wellness and husbandry.
- Promote evidence-based approaches to companion parrot care.

Collaboration & Advisory Role

- Work closely with Greyhaven's Board of Directors, shelter leadership, caregivers, and adoption team.
- Provide medical guidance regarding rehabilitation, quality of life assessments, and long-term sanctuary care.
- Support responsible adoption decisions by providing health information relevant to placement.
- Advocate for the highest standards of welfare for rescued companion parrots.

Qualifications

- Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM or equivalent) degree from an accredited veterinary school.
- Current veterinary license to practice in the applicable province or jurisdiction.
- Specialized experience or advanced training in avian medicine.
- Strong knowledge of avian anatomy, physiology, diseases, diagnostics, and treatment protocols.
- Experience with companion parrots and exotic animal medicine.
- Ability to work collaboratively with a multidisciplinary rescue and sanctuary team.
- Excellent communication skills and ability to educate caregivers and the public.
- Commitment to compassionate, evidence-based animal welfare.

Preferred Qualifications

- Board certification or advanced credentials in avian medicine.
- Experience working with rescue, sanctuary, or medically complex birds.
- Experience with psittacine species and common avian conditions, including infectious disease, nutritional disorders, feather destructive behaviors, and trauma-related conditions.
- Experience developing medical protocols or training programs.

Accountability

The Director of Avian Medicine works collaboratively with Greyhaven Exotic Bird Sanctuary's leadership team and provides veterinary expertise to support the organization's commitment to compassionate rescue, rehabilitation, and lifelong care of companion parrots.